

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-15 TRSE-00 /070 W  
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R 250815Z AUG 77  
FM AMCONSUL BORDEAUX  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0664  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL LYON  
AMCONSUL MARSEILLE  
AMCONSUL NICE  
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

UNCLAS BORDEAUX 0174

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, FR  
SUBJECT: BORDEAUX URBAN COMMUNITY (CUB) SETTLEMENT

1. FOLLOWING THE FRENCH MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS OF LAST MARCH, THE LEFT, WHICH HAD MADE IMPORTANT GAINS IN COMMUNITIES OF THE METROPOLITAN AREA, CLAIMED THE PRESIDENCY OF THE CUB AND AS MANY AS 52 OF THE 70 SEATS ON ITS COUNCIL. NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE OUTGOING COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, BORDEAUX MAYOR CHABAN-DELMAS, RPR AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEFT WERE DEADLOCKED FOR SOME TIME. A BREAKTHROUGH NOW APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED. WHAT FOLLOWS IS THE TRANSLATION OF A REPORT ON THIS SUBJECT WHICH APPEARED IN THE BORDEAUX NEWSPAPER "SUD-OUEST" ON AUGUST 24 1977. IT WAS SIGNED BY PIERRE CHERRUAU. THE WORDS IN PARENTESIS HAVE BEEN ADDED FOR CLARIFICATION. BEGIN QUOTE:

2. BORDEAUX URBAN COMMUNITY (CUB): THE AGREEMENT IS NOW OFFICIAL.

3. YESTERDAY EVENING, THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF THE GIRONDE, OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED ITS DECISION TO ACCEPT  
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THE PROPOSAL MADE BY (BORDEAUX MAYOR) JACQUES CHABAN-DELMAS ON SHARING THE SEATS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BORDEAUX URBAN COMMUNITY (BORDEAUX METROPOLITAN AREA COUNCIL). THE DECISION WAS TAKEN MONDAY EVENING, NOT WITHOUT DIFFICULTY, DURING A MEETING OF THE SOCIALIST MAYORS OF THE CUB AND THEN OF THE (SOCIALIST DEPARTMENTAL) FEDERAL BUREAU.

4. AFTER THE ENACTMENT OF THE FOYER LAW ON THE REFORM OF INTER-COMMUNITY COOPERATION (JUNE 22) WHICH WOULD ALLOW BORDEAUX TO WITHDRAW FROM THE CUB, MR. JACQUES CHABAN-DELMAS, HAD, IN THE END, OFFERED TO RENOUNCE THE (COUNCIL) PRESIDENCY IN FAVOR OF MR. MICHEL SAINTE-MARIE, THE SOCIALIST CANDIDATE.

5. THE PRESIDENT'S VOTE WAS TO BE DECISIVE (IN CASE OF A TIE). HOWEVER, THE 70 SEATS FOR THE COUNSELLORS OF THE COMMUNITY WERE DIVIDED EQUALLY BETWEEN THE TWO TENDENCIES, I.E., 35 SEATS FOR BORDEAUX AND THE ASSOCIATED COMMUNES (NATIONAL "MAJORITY") AND 35 SEATS FOR THE MUNICIPALITIES BELONGING TO THE UNION OF THE LEFT. FINALLY, IN THE MAYOR OF BORDEAUX'S PROPOSAL, THE LEFTIST PRESIDENT WAS TO BE FLANKED BY TWO FIRST VICE-PRESIDENTS, ONE REPRESENTING BORDEAUX, THE OTHER THE ASSOCIATED COMMUNITIES.

6. THE PROPOSAL WAS ACCEPTED MONDAY EVENING (AUGUST 22) AND IF CERTAIN LITTLE DETAILS HAVE NOT YET BEEN SETTLED, IT SEEMS THEY ARE UNIMPORTANT. THUS, FOR EXAMPLE, THERE IS TALK OF A "COMMUNITY CONTRACT" RATHER THAN A "CHARTER", THIS WORD BEING JUDGED UNPLEASANT BY SOME, EVEN HUMILIATING FOR THE LEFT.

7. THIS EVENING (AUGUST 24), MOST OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNSELLORS OF THE CUB WILL HAVE TO MAKE A DECISION ON THIS AGREEMENT. THIS SHOULD NOT BE TOO DIFFICULT, EXCEPT IN THE COUNCILS WHERE THERE ARE A MAJORITY OF COMMUNISTS. IT IS POSSIBLE ALSO THAT THIS AGREEMENT WILL NOT BE WELL ACCEPTED BY ALL SOCIALIST  
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MILITANTS. HOWEVER, PARTY DISCIPLINE SHOULD APPLY, EVEN IF THERE ARE TENSIONS IN NUMEROUS SECTIONS.

8. IT IS NOTED THAT THE FIRST COMMUNIST REACTIONS WERE NOT LONG IN COMING: NOT ONLY DO THEY COMPLAIN THAT THEY WERE LEFT OUT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AS WELL AS THE DECISION, BUT, THEY ALSO DECLARE THAT THIS RESULT IS CONTRARY TO THE DECLARATIONS AND JOINT AGREEMENT OF THE P.C. AND P.S.

9. IT IS NOT IMPOSSIBLE THAT THE FILE ON THE CUB WILL ADD TO THE CONTENTIOUS MATTER WHICH SEPARATES THE TWO LARGE PARTIES OF THE UNION OF THE LEFT AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL.

10. IT IS WORTHY OF NOTICE THAT GILBERT MITTERRAND, SON OF HIS FATHER AND RECENTLY APPOINTED TO THE FEDERAL BUREAU, WAS THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIALISTS IN ANNOUNCING THE AGREEMENT. IS THIS A WAY OF SHOWING THAT THIS WAS DONE WITH THE BENEDICTION OF THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THE P.S.? IT IS NOT IMPOSSIBLE.  
END QUOTEMARVIN

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## Message Attributes

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